(b) the approximate time taken for giving new cards after submission of forms and old cards; and

(c) the reasons for delay in renewing cards submitted in Shakurbasti dispensary in February, 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No specific time period has been fixed for this purpose.

(c) The renewal of old CGHS cards of CGHS dispensary at Sakurbasti have been returned to that dispensary after completing the formalities for further necessary action. The pensioners are, however, not being denied CGHS facilities with their old cards.

**Health Services to be affected by cut in W.H.O. Aid**

4199. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has proposed a drastic cut in the aid extended to India and some other countries in South-East Asia while funds are being diverted to Africa and Europe;

(b) if so, the detailed reasons as given out therefor and steps being taken to seek larger allocations; and

(c) the specific schemes/areas of our health services which are likely to be affected due to the proposed cuts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (c) Yes, Sir. One of the recommendations of the Executive Board (EB) of the WHO made to the World Health Assembly (WHA) was to reduce Budget allocations to the South-East Asia region by 48.4% leading to a reduction in the allocation for India by 36.8%. The purpose for such reduction was to provide additional funding to the countries of Africa and Eastern Europe.

At the 51st session of the WHA which met in Geneva from 11-16th May, 1998, the representatives of this region, including those from India intervened and were able to persuade the WHA to modify the recommendation of the EB.

Accordingly, the WHA resolved that the reduction shall not exceed 3% per year, to be spread over six years commencing from 2000AD, which works out to a reduction of 18% for this region. However, the allocation of the least developed countries is not to be reduced beyond their 1998-99 allocation. The exact allocation for India is yet to be determined by the Regional Office.

WHO funds are normally used to fill critical gaps in availability of resources for implementing schemes in the health sector with an objective of achieving Health For All.

Therefore, no health programmes will in any manner, be adversely affected by such reduction in funds though some readjustment in the activities may become necessary.

**Permission to market Anti-Impotency Drug 'Viagra' in India**

4200. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Drug Controller received application from drug companies for permission to market anti-impotency drug 'Viagra' in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have considered the social and other implications besides economic, of introducing this drug in the country's market; and

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s